

10/6/2003

I claim:

{1. thru 19} (canceled)

1. 20. A [field marking] system of detecting, qualifying, quantifying, notifying and neutralizing an environmental hazard comprises a field deployable [comprising a deployment vehicle, a deployment surface, a plurality of field markers and means to deploy said field markers carried by said deployment vehicle, each said field marker, a remote station and separably deployable neutralizing means, said field deployable marker carrying a means for detecting, qualifying and quantifying environmental hazards, a means for communicating, a means for controlling and a means for signaling wherein said means for communicating transmits data to said remote station having a means for standing erect upon said deployment surface, a means for visibly marking a location on said deployment surface, a means for visibly signalling the presence of physical hazards, a means for determining the presence of ABC hazards and a means for communicating wherein said means to deploy comprises means to collapse said field marker, means to retain said field marker and means to release said field marker].

2. 21. A system as in claim 20 wherein said means for communicating has a means for activating, a means for transmitting and a means for receiving associated therewith, said means for activating receiving instruction from said remote station through said means for receiving.

3. 22. A system as in claim 21 wherein said means for activating has means to change an onboard state of said means for signaling.

4. 23. A system as in claim 22 wherein said onboard state of said means for signaling has an initial state corresponding to an environmental condition wherein personnel may be present.

5. 24. A system as in claim 23 wherein said means for activating changes said initial state to a second state corresponding to an environmental condition consistent with said position where said field marker has been deployed, said means for activating changing said initial state upon receiving a command signal from said remote station.

6. 25. A system as in claim 23 wherein said means for activating changes said initial state to a second state corresponding to an environmental condition consistent with said position where said field marker has been deployed, said means for activating changing said initial state upon detecting an elevated level of at least one hazard from said means for detecting, qualifying and quantifying.

7. 26. A system as in claim 21 wherein said remote station addresses any one of a plurality of said field deployable markers by transmitting a coded identification number and an access code to said one field deployable marker wherein said means for activating is queried to submit sampling data.

8 27. A system as in claim 21 wherein said remote station addresses any one of a plurality of said field deployable markers by transmitting a coded identification number and an access code to said one field deployable marker wherein said means for activating is queried to resubmit sampling data.

9 28. A system as in claim 21 wherein said remote station addresses any one of a plurality of said field deployable markers by transmitting a coded identification number and an access code to said one field deployable marker wherein said means for activating is queried to start a sampling sequence.

10 29. A system as in claim 21 wherein said remote station addresses any one of a plurality of said field deployable markers by transmitting a coded identification number and an access code to said one field deployable marker wherein said means for activating is queried to restart a sampling sequence.

11 30. A system as in claim 21 wherein said remote station addresses any one of a plurality of said field deployable markers by transmitting a coded identification number and an access code to said one field deployable marker wherein said means for activating changes said identification code.

12 31. A system as in claim 21 wherein said remote station addresses any one of a plurality of said field deployable markers by transmitting a coded identification number and an access code to said one field deployable marker wherein said means for activating changes said access code.

13 32. A system as in claim 21 wherein said remote station addresses any one of a plurality of said field deployable markers by transmitting a coded identification number and an access code to said one field deployable marker wherein said means for activating changes said identification code and said access code.

14 33. A system as in claim 21 wherein said remote station addresses any one of a plurality of said field deployable markers by transmitting a coded identification number and an access code to said one field deployable marker wherein said means for activating changes the onboard state of said means for signaling.

15 34. A system as in claim 21 wherein said remote station addresses any one of a plurality of said field deployable markers by transmitting a coded identification number and an access code to said one field deployable marker wherein said means for activating deactivates said one field deployable marker.

16 35. A system of detecting, qualifying, quantifying, notifying and neutralizing an environmental hazard comprises a field deployable marker, a remote station and separably deployable neutralizing means, said field deployable marker carrying a means for detecting, qualifying and quantifying environmental hazards, a means for communicating, a means for controlling and a means for signaling wherein said remote station receives at least one data stream from said means for communicating.

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36 A system as in claim 35 wherein said remote station contains personnel to evaluate said data stream.

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37 A system as in claim 36 wherein said personnel at said remote station transmit at least one command sequence to said field deployable marker using a line of sight transmitter.

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38 A system as in claim 36 wherein said personnel at said remote station transmit at least one command sequence to said field deployable marker using a Geo-Positional Satellite.

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39 A system of detecting, qualifying, quantifying, notifying and neutralizing an environmental hazard comprises a field deployable marker, a remote station and separably deployable neutralizing means, said field deployable marker carrying a means for detecting, qualifying and quantifying environmental hazards, a means for communicating, a means for controlling and a means for signaling wherein personnel at said remote station deploy effective countermeasures through said separably deployable means in response to information received from said field deployable marker through said means for communicating.